

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A torque converter comprising:
 - 2 a pump wheel;
 - 3 a turbine wheel comprising a turbine wheel shell and a turbine wheel base
 - 4 connected to said shell, said turbine wheel being supported axially and radially with
 - 5 respect to a turbine wheel hub by a first bearing;
 - 6 a stator provided between the pump wheel and the turbine wheel, said
 - 7 stator being mounted on a stator hub which is supported axially against said turbine
 - 8 wheel base by a second bearing located radially inside of the first bearing, said pump
 - 9 wheel, said turbine wheel, and said stator forming a hydrodynamic circuit,
 - 10 a primary damper element which is acted on by the turbine wheel by way
 - 11 of an intermediate element; and
 - 12 a secondary damper element which is fixed against rotation with respect
 - 13 to said turbine wheel hub and is connected to said primary damper element in a
 - 14 rotationally elastic manner by a set of springs.

- 1 2. A torque converter as in claim 1 wherein the intermediate element,
2 the turbine wheel shell, and the turbine wheel base are connected to each other by
3 common connecting elements.

- 1 3. A torque converter as in claim 2 wherein said connecting elements
2 are rivets.

1 4. A torque converter as in claim 1 wherein said turbine wheel has a
2 part against which the intermediate element rests, said part having a shape, said
3 intermediate element conforming to said shape.

1 5. A torque converter as in claim 1 wherein the turbine wheel shell has
2 an area of maximum axial dimension, said intermediate element being located radially
3 inward of said area of maximum axial dimension.

1 6. A torque converter as in claim 1 wherein the intermediate element
2 and the primary damper element each comprise teeth, the teeth of the intermediate
3 element engaging the teeth of the primary damper element.

1 7. A torque converter as in claim 1 further comprising a bridging clutch
2 connecting the pump wheel to the primary damper element.

1 8. A torque converter as in claim 7 wherein the bridging clutch
2 comprises a plurality of axially aligned clutch disks.

1 9. A torque converter as in claim 1 wherein the primary damper
2 element engages the secondary damper element to form a rotational angle limiter, said
3 limiter being located radially inward of said first bearing.

1 10. A torque converter as in claim 9 wherein said primary damper
2 element and said secondary damper element have teeth which engage with
3 circumferential play to form said rotational angle limiter.

1 11. A torque converter as in claim 1 wherein the turbine wheel hub
2 comprises a radial web having a radially outer end provided with an axially extending
3 flange having a radially outside surface, said first bearing being located on the radially
4 outside surface of the flange.

1 12. A torque converter as in claim 11 wherein said turbine wheel base
2 extends radially inward from said turbine wheel shell, said base having a bent section
3 which extends axially under said flange and a radially inner end, said second bearing
4 lying against said radially inner end.

1 13. A torque converter as in claim 1 wherein said first bearing is a plain
2 bearing having an L-shaped cross-section.

1 14. A torque converter as in claim 1 wherein the second bearing is a
2 roller bearing.

1 15. A torque converter as in claim 14 wherein the roller bearing is a ball
2 bearing.